United Nations E/C.20/2018/4

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*
Strengthening of geospatial information management

Strengthening of geospatial information management

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report on strengthening geospatial information management, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on how the global geospatial information management community can actively contribute towards strengthening geospatial information management for Member States.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/101, in which it welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat and the expanded Bureau of the Committee to take practical and strategic action to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/27 on strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management. The Committee agreed that the 2017–2021 strategic framework provided a reference for prioritizing the work of the Committee and a tangible means to communicate its work. It suggested that its implementation be maximized through the support of the regional committees, thematic groups and other relevant stakeholders.

In the report, prepared with assistance from the expanded Bureau, the Secretariat provides information on the efforts made to take practical and strategic action to implement the resolution and strengthen geospatial information management for Member States. An updated strategic framework for the 2018–2022 period is presented, along with modalities and efforts to enable the Committee to be better supported by the regional committee architecture and the regional commissions. In addition, the report provides details on the convening of the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress in Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China, from 19 to

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08226 (E) 040618

Please recycle

21 November 2018. With the overarching theme "The geospatial way to a better world", the Congress will be a global event bringing together all stakeholders at the highest level to address and ensure that geospatial information reaches its widest and fullest utility in service of social, economic and environmental development.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/5

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda

Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report containing the contributions of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/ggim-committee/8th-session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the operation and achievements of the regional committees and thematic groups.

Summary of the report

The report provides information on the contributions and achievements of the following eight regional committees and thematic groups: Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific; Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas; Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa; Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe; Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Arab States; United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Geospatial Information Societies; United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network; and United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network.

The reports of the regional committees and thematic groups contain information on their activities and achievements since the seventh session of the Committee of Experts, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, including the regional meetings

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08227 (E) 010618

Please recycle

and workshops held during the intersessional period. The reports also provide an overview of the work of the regional committees, including their working and thematic groups, in the following areas: (a) sustainable development; (b) land administration and management; (c) disaster risk reduction; (d) fundamental geospatial data themes; (e) integration of statistical and geospatial information; (f) legal and policy frameworks; (g) regional and international collaboration and capacity development, including the Americas Caribbean Project and Asia-Pacific Geodetic Capacity-building project of the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management; (h) global geodetic reference frame; (i) marine geospatial information; (j) priority issues and challenges; and (k) future plans and events.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/6

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Global geodetic reference frame

Global geodetic reference frame

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the subcommittee on geodesy, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress made by the subcommittee in its efforts to develop the implementation plan of the road map for the enhancement and sustainability of the global geodetic reference frame.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/103, in which it endorsed the formal establishment and composition of the subcommittee on geodesy, agreed with the proposed terms of reference and transition plan, and encouraged further membership of developing countries with the assistance of the regional committees. The Committee also expressed support for the development of the road map implementation plan, the position paper on appropriate governance arrangements and the building of the web of communication experts, and noted the convening of the inaugural meeting of the subcommittee.

In its report, the subcommittee provides information on its recent activities, including the main outcomes of its inaugural meeting, held in Mexico City in November 2017, and activities subsequent to the inaugural meeting, including outreach and communication. The subcommittee also presents the road map implementation plan and the position paper on appropriate governance, for consideration by the Committee of Experts, and the revised terms of reference of the subcommittee, for endorsement by the Committee.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08228 (E) 050618

Please recycle

United Nations E/C.20/2018/7

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe on behalf of its working group on global fundamental geospatial data themes. The report will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress made in the determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/104, in which it adopted the proposed minimum list of global fundamental geospatial data themes and expressed support for the offer of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe to continue to develop more details for each theme and to draw up plans for promoting the proposed minimum list and making it better known, accepted and applied within the wider community, including the non-geospatial community.

In its report, the Regional Committee for Europe outlines its action to advance the work on the determination of the fundamental geospatial data themes at the global level. It also describes its engagement with the other regional committees and their relevant working groups, its engagement with other working groups of the Committee of Experts, the methodology used and the review process that it has undertaken to produce high-level descriptions for each of the themes. The report includes summaries of activities undertaken by the working group to promote the themes within the geospatial and non-geospatial communities, including workshops in Africa and promotional activities at other events. The report also includes recommendations for next steps the Committee of Experts may wish to consider.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08229 (E) 050618

Please recycle

United Nations E/C.20/2018/8

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management

Trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on trends in national institutional arrangements, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/ggim-committee/8th-session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the proposed plans to refocus and refine the work of the working group to ensure that its outputs are of value to and aligned with the requirements of Member States regarding national institutional arrangements and support the key areas of work of the Committee.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/105, in which it welcomed the comprehensive report of the working group on trends in national institutional arrangements and the production of the overarching framework for national institutional arrangements, inclusive of instruments, principles and guidelines. In addition, the Committee endorsed the overarching framework as an integrated process for implementing national institutional arrangements in geospatial information management for Member States, commended the compendium of good practices as a tangible means of demonstrating models of institutional arrangements across geographic regions and encouraged Member States to contribute to that effort. The Committee also agreed that a practical and commendable next step to further the work of the working group was to develop an easy-to-understand guide to facilitate the use of the framework principles and instruments by users who were not familiar with geospatial information management concepts.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08230 (E) 050618

Please recycle

In its report, the working group presents a review of its modalities and operational activities during the intersessional period, including the appointment of a new working group bureau, the revision of its terms of reference and the approach taken to evaluate, refocus and revise its workplan. The report includes plans by the working group to integrate its existing institutional arrangements framework for geospatial information management, including the instruments, principles and guidelines, to support relevant areas of work by other expert and working groups of the Committee of Experts.

18-08230

United Nations E/C.20/2018/9

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*
Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data

Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the working group in its efforts to address legal and policy issues in geospatial information management, including those related to authoritative data.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/106, in which it endorsed the establishment of the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management, its terms of reference and its initial composition. The Committee requested the working group to develop mechanisms for Member States to build capacity to address legal and policy matters and noted the comments made during the session about analysing complex issues regarding geospatial information, including definitions of open data, personal data, data privacy, data protection, data licensing and the security and misuse of data.

In its report, the working group provides information on its progress in establishing its modalities and developing a workplan for the biennium 2018–2019 to

* E/C.20/2018/1.

Please recycle

systematically address the complex legal and policy issues in geospatial information management. The working group also provides information on its activities in building capacity and awareness, including introducing and communicating practical approaches to considering legal and policy issues that have an impact on the availability, accessibility and application of geospatial information. A use case is presented to methodologically consider and begin to understand some of the complex legal and policy issues in geospatial information management, including those related to authoritative data.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/10

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 9 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community

Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared jointly by the Open Geospatial Consortium, technical committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization and the International Hydrographic Organization. The report will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the adoption and implementation of core geospatial standards, including a revision of the guide and technical companion document to the role of standards in geospatial information management.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/113, in which it expressed its appreciation to the international standards organizations for their continuing support and valuable work in international geospatial standards and noted their contributions towards the provision of geospatial standards in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and statistical-geospatial integration. The Committee welcomed the proposed survey on considering a review and update of the standards guide and companion document, and noted the encouragement by the standards development organizations of participation by Member States in the international geospatial standards development processes.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08232 (E) 070618

Please recycle

In their report, the international standards organizations provide a review and update of the guide to the role of standards in geospatial information management and its technical companion document, together with insights into the global adoption of standards and pertinent results drawn from a survey circulated to Member States and related organizations and industry sectors. The report includes details on collaborative efforts, such as the harmonization of standards and common vocabularies, by the statistics domain working group of the Open Geospatial Consortium and the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, that will mutually benefit the geospatial and statistical domains. Also described in the report is the status of development of the Land Administration Domain Model, which will benefit the wider geospatial community.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 10 of the provisional agenda*
Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information

Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the Expert Group in further developing and implementing the global statistical geospatial framework in support of the 2020 round of population censuses and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/107, in which it noted the endorsement of the global statistical geospatial framework by the Statistical Commission at its forty-eighth session, held in March 2017. The Committee also endorsed the emphasis of the Commission on strengthening the mandate of the Expert Group to become the overall coordination group for all activities in the area of integration of statistical and geospatial information. During the session, the Committee affirmed the view of the Expert Group that regional committees and equivalent statistical bodies needed to engage with the work occurring under the guidance of the Expert Group to further refine the global statistical geospatial framework and promote its implementation, reiterating that the 2020 round of population censuses and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development were important drivers for the integration of geospatial and

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08233 (E) 060618

Please recycle

statistical information in support of evidence-based decision-making across many sectors.

In its report, the Expert Group provides information on its recent activities, including the main outcomes of its fourth meeting, held in Sweden in November 2017, and elaborates on the five principles of the global statistical geospatial framework and how the Expert Group is working to make the framework operational and thereby support the 2020 round of population censuses and the 2030 Agenda.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/12

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 11 of the provisional agenda*
Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management

Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the expert group on land administration and management, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and express its views on the work of the expert group, including efforts to develop a framework for sustainable land administration that may be referenced by Member States.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/108, in which it noted the need for continued advocacy and political awareness of the benefits of effective and efficient land administration and management, urged the expert group on land administration and management to continue to address the overarching policy guidance for sustainable and interoperable land administration and management systems and noted that that principles-based guidance should be flexible and recognize the diverse social and economic contexts at the national and subnational levels.

In its report, the expert group provides information on its activities and progress, including its consideration of an overarching framework for sustainable land administration, taking into account the guidance provided by the Committee of Experts at its seventh session. In this regard, the expert group is considering a framework in which are described key elements or principles for sustainable and interoperable land administration and management systems that can efficiently and effectively document, record and recognize people-to-land relationships in all their

* E/C.20/2018/1.

Please recycle

forms. The framework includes references to existing concepts, approaches and mechanisms, such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (from the Committee on World Food Security), the continuum of land rights (Global Land Tool Network) and the Land Governance Assessment Framework (World Bank Group). Within the overarching framework, developments in the standardization of land administration domain models will be considered as a means to enable further progress.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/13

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 12 of the provisional agenda*
Geospatial information for sustainable development

Geospatial information for sustainable development**

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the working group towards addressing the availability and application of geospatial information in the production of Sustainable Development Goal indicators and in measuring and monitoring the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to leave no one behind.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/109, in which it recognized that the combined geospatial and statistical expertise of the working group positioned it appropriately to facilitate and support a "data ecosystem" that leveraged an accessible, integrative and interoperable local-to-global information system for measuring and monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and tracking annual progress. Also in decision 7/109, the Committee acknowledged that the global geospatial information environment was dynamic and innovative, with the emergence of new technologies, methods and processes, and, in that regard, agreed that data availability and quality remained one of the biggest challenges for Member States and that data, when available, must also be accessible, consistent and sustainable for the production of indicators to provide information on the agreed goals and targets, in accordance with national priorities and needs.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

** Reissued for technical reasons on 12 June 2018; previously issued under the symbol E/C.2/2018/13.

18-08235 (E) 120618

Please recycle

In the report, the working group provides information on the progress made towards ensuring that the contribution of the global geospatial information community to the Sustainable Development Goal process remained rigorous and relevant. That includes a revised workplan for the biennium 2018–2019 that builds upon the working group's earlier efforts and outcomes, with a focus on developing and providing guidance on disaggregation by geographical location and on aggregation of geocoded unit-level data. The working group is seeking to develop and provide further guidance to the statistical community on appropriate approaches to leveraging production-ready satellite Earth observation time series data, contributed by space agencies participating in the working group. The report includes the main outcomes of the fourth meeting of the working group, held in New York in December 2017, and of subsequent online meetings.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/14

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 13 of the provisional agenda*
Geospatial information and services for disasters

Geospatial information and services for disasters

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the working group in its efforts to have the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters for 2016–2030 adopted by the Economic and Social Council. The Strategic Framework serves as an internationally agreed guide for Member States and other stakeholders to the collection, application and use of geospatial data across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/110, in which it welcomed the report of the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters and commended the work and effort of the working group in refining the then draft Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters, inclusive of the inputs from the global consultation. Also in decision 7/110, the Committee adopted the Strategic Framework as a guide for Member States in their respective national activities to ensure the availability and accessibility of quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle, and as a means to reach out and engage with decision makers, and endorsed the consideration of drafting a resolution presenting the Strategic Framework for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. In addition, the Committee expressed support for the proposal of the

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08236 (E) 060618

Please recycle

working group to develop an assessment tool to assist Member States and the regional committees of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management to evaluate and develop their respective implementation plans and to monitor and report progress on the implementation of the Strategic Framework.

In the report, the working group provides information on its intersessional activities, including the preparation of the draft resolution on the Strategic Framework, informal consultations with representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations, led by Jamaica and the Philippines, and the promotion of the Strategic Framework in international forums.

United Nations E/C.20/2018/15

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 14 of the provisional agenda*
Marine geospatial information

Marine geospatial information

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on marine geospatial information, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the working group in its efforts to address the importance of reliable, timely and fit-for-purpose marine geospatial information to support the administration, management and governance of oceans, seas and inland waters.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/111, in which it endorsed the terms of reference and establishment of the working group on marine geospatial information, noting the need for appropriate technical expertise and broad geographical representation. Also in decision 7/111, the Committee noted that, given the complexity and broad scope of marine geospatial information, it was critical to ensure that the working group remained focused, within its scope, and not political in nature, and the Committee encouraged the working group to address issues related to the availability, accessibility and application of marine geospatial information, and linkages to national spatial data infrastructure.

In the report, the working group provides information on the progress made towards establishing its modalities, developing a workplan for the biennium 2018-2019 and focusing on the objectives and functions set out in its terms of reference. The working group reports on its graduated approach to managing and promoting the value of marine geospatial information, including the preparation of a communications plan, the gathering of information in order to better understand existing capacity development initiatives being taken by international organizations, including the International Hydrographic Organization, and the application of use-case approaches to understanding and promoting the benefits of readily available, standards-driven marine geospatial information.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08237 (E) 080618

Please recycle

United Nations E/C.20/2018/16

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 15 of the provisional agenda*
National geospatial data and information systems

National geospatial data and information systems

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report, prepared with the assistance of the World Bank Group, on new developments with regard to national geospatial data and information systems. The report will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on how the global geospatial information management community can actively contribute to the development of frameworks for national geospatial data and information systems for Member States.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/112, in which it expressed support for the collaborative agreement between the Statistics Division and the World Bank, which formulated a joint vision to promote growth and prosperity, to assist countries to take practical actions to achieve a digital transformation, and to bridge the geospatial digital divide in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Also in decision 7/112, the Committee of Experts acknowledged the need for collaboration to develop an overarching geospatial framework that countries could reference when implementing integrated evidence-based decision-making solutions that maximized and leveraged national systems tailored to their own situations.

In the report, information is provided on the joint efforts made by the Statistics Division and the World Bank to develop an integrated geospatial information framework as an overarching strategic policy guide and reference for countries that are developing, strengthening and modernizing their national geospatial information management, systems and infrastructure, capacities and capabilities in order to achieve national strategic priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08311 (E) 050618

Please recycle

United Nations E/C.20/2018/17

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 16 of the provisional agenda*
Strengthening of collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Strengthening of collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the efforts to strengthen the coordination of geospatial information management with the Group of Experts.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/114, in which it welcomed the report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and endorsed the proposal to build a stronger relationship between the Group of Experts and the Committee to advance the cause of geographical names and geospatial information management, keeping the process technical and not political in nature. In addition, the Committee expressed support for the common principles of cooperation as a positive communication tool and a means for closer collaboration, and for the strengthening of arrangements in geospatial information management. Furthermore, the Committee recognized that the real benefits of cooperation and collaboration would need to be anchored at the national level and that it would be critical for national delegates from the Group of Experts and the Committee to establish and continue their outreach activities on an ongoing basis.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

18-08239 (E) 070618

Please recycle

In its report, the Group of Experts presents its activities undertaken at the global and national levels as part of its efforts to strengthen collaboration and implement the decisions made by the Committee at its seventh session. The report includes information on the first physical meeting convened between the two Bureaux, in August 2017, the contribution of the Group of Experts to the work of the working group on global fundamental geospatial data themes, an update on the modernization of its operations, including changes to the duration and frequency of meetings, and alignment of its operations to new rules and procedures, and the preparation of its second joint Bureau meeting, in August 2018.

18-08239

United Nations E/C.20/2018/18

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 May 2018

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eighth session
New York, 1–3 August 2018
Item 17 of the provisional agenda*
Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management

Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report on the review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on how the global geospatial information management community can actively contribute to the effective coordination of geospatial activities within the United Nations system.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/115, in which it welcomed the report of the Secretariat on the review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management and agreed that efforts should be made to consider a more structured and sustainable coordination approach for geospatial information management activities within the United Nations system. The Committee emphasized the need for the Secretariat to continue its consultations concerning the questionnaire that had been circulated in order to provide a systematic overview of the existing geospatial resources, activities and governance arrangements of the United Nations system, to continue to seek clarification and expand on responses received, and to reach out to United Nations entities that had not yet responded, with a view to maintaining a list of points of contact within the United Nations system. As a starting point, the Committee agreed to establish a United Nations system network within its global

* E/C.20/2018/1.

Please recycle

architecture, which, once established, could then review and possibly implement further options at an appropriate time in the future, with the guidance and support of the Committee.

In the report, the Secretariat provides information on the continued efforts and progress made to seek clarification on United Nations activities in geospatial information management, including the maintenance of a list of points of contact. The Secretariat also presents the preparatory consultations undertaken with the various offices, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system for the establishment of the United Nations system network, including the preparation of draft terms of reference for consideration by the Committee of Experts.